REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 6-9, 15-17 and 23-28 were rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph. Claims 1-8, 12-14 and 16-22 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Khosravi et al. Claims 10, 11 and 23-27 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Akhosravi in view of Ragheb et al.

The amended claims cover the elected embodiment of Figs. 12 to 19 and Figs. 22 to 32.

Also enclosed is a list of references for the Examiner's attention by a Supplemental IDS. Copies of these references are enclosed.

Claims 6, 15 and 16 have been deleted. Claims 23 to 28 have been amended to become dependent method claims.

Claim 1 has been amended. The applicant notes that the Examiner has not rejected claim 15 on the basis of Khosravi or Ragheb. Amended claim 1 now includes the feature of claim 15. Claim 1 should therefore be in condition for allowance.

A New Power of Attorney and Change of Correspondence Address is attached.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims in the present application, as they now stand, patentably distinguish over the references cited and applied by the Examiner and are, therefore, in condition for

allowance. A Notice of Allowance is in order, and such favorable action and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

However, if after reviewing the above amendments and remarks, the Examiner has any questions or comments, he is cordially invited to contact the undersigned attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

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1. (Currently Amended) Device suitable for internally supporting vessels, in particular circular vessels in the non-medical and medical fields, said device comprising:

an outer wall, ~~and~~

an inner wall in association with the outer wall, ~~whereby~~

both the inner and outer ~~wall~~ walls being movable from a delivery configuration, in which the device is displaceable to a pre-desired location in the vessel, to a deployment configuration, ~~are expandable and contractible between an expanded support position,~~ in which ~~support position~~ the outer wall contacts an internal surface of the vessel to be supported, and being movable from the deployment configuration to a retrieval configuration, in which ~~a contracted displacing position wherein~~ the device is displaceable ~~to and~~ from ~~a~~ the pre-desired location in the vessel, ~~and;~~

the inner and outer walls comprising a first terminal part and a second terminal part, in the retrieval configuration the first terminal part overlapping the second terminal part, and in the delivery configuration the second terminal part overlapping at least part of the first terminal part, the first terminal part comprising:-

a guiding opening at a first region of the first terminal part, through which the second terminal part is extendable to guide the terminal parts over one another during expansion of the device, and

a female receiver at a second region of the first terminal part spaced from

the first region,

- the second terminal part comprising a male projection for engagement with the female receiver to ~~a releasable~~ releasably lock ~~releasibly locking~~ the device in the deployment configuration ~~at least one of the expanded support position and the contracted displacing position~~.

2. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 1, wherein the outer and inner walls are provided in the form of one or more roughly circular elements.

3. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 2 wherein the one or more roughly circular elements take the form of one or more rings.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 3, wherein the ring elements are interconnected by one or more linking members.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 1, further provided with a tracing agent, whereby the device is traceable when arranged in position with the body.

11. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 1, further provided with a radio-active material in order to provide localized radiation therapy.

12. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim 1, further comprising a medicament delivery system for delivery of a medicament at a target site in order to locally treat a medical disorder within the body.

13. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim 1, the device being pre-tensioned to assume in its resting state~~, either~~ the retrieval configuration ~~contracted position or the expanded position~~.

14. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim 1, said device comprising a memory metal which assumes at least one of the ~~contracted~~ deployment and retrieval configurations ~~expanded position~~ when exposed to certain conditions.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim 16 1, wherein the female receiver ~~further~~

~~comprising~~ comprises an aperture ~~on~~ in the first terminal part, into ~~through~~ which the ~~second terminal part~~ male projection is engageable ~~transposcable~~.

18. (Currently Amended) Assembly for treating body vessel disorders, said assembly comprising a device according to claim 1, and,

- an assembly configured for at least one of ~~introducing~~ delivering and ~~removing~~ retrieving the device to or from the pre-desired location within a vessel.

19. (Currently Amended) Assembly according to claim ~~18~~ 6, wherein the assembly comprises an expandable and deflateable balloon catheter.

20. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 47 for treating ~~Process for arranging a device according to claim 1 within~~ a body vessel, comprising the steps of,

arranging the device in ~~its contracted form~~ the delivery configuration around a balloon catheter~~, so that the device grips onto the balloon catheter~~,

- ~~bringing~~ delivering the balloon catheter ~~plus contracted~~ with the device in the delivery configuration to a pre-~~determined~~ desired location ~~position with~~ within a body vessel~~:~~,
- expanding the balloon catheter ~~whereby~~ to expand the device, and contracting the balloon catheter to contract the device ~~is also expanded, to such an extent that the releasable lock is locked in position, whereby in this expanded use position the balloon catheter may optionally be deflated and removed~~.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~Process~~ Method according to claim ~~20~~ 2, further comprising the steps of

reintroducing a balloon catheter into the vessel,

expanding the balloon catheter to expand the device and contracting the balloon catheter to contract the device ~~against the inner wall of the device to such an extent that the device is further expanded in order to release the releasable lock~~,

followed by deflating the balloon catheter whereby the device re-assumes its contracted position to grip around the balloon catheter,

~~whereafter~~ retrieving the balloon catheter and the device in the retrieval configuration ~~may be removed~~ from the body vessel.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of a device~~ Method according to claim ~~1~~ 20 for treating vessels of the digestive tract.

24. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of the device~~ Method according to claim ~~1~~ 20 for treating vessels of the urinary tract.

25. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of the device~~ Method according to claim ~~1~~ 20 for treating the vessels of the airways.

26. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of the device~~ Method according to claim ~~1~~ 20 for treating blood vessels.

27. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of the device~~ Method according to claim ~~1~~ 22 for locally radioactively treating a body vessel.

28. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of the device~~ Method according to claim ~~1~~ 47 for internally supporting a non-medical vessel ~~application, in particular~~ for internally supporting transmission pipes.

Claims 29-41 (Cancelled)

Please add new claims 42-50 as follows:

42. (New) Device according to claim 12 wherein the medicament delivery system comprises a coating containing a medicament.

43. (New) Device according to claim 12 wherein the medicament delivery system comprises one of a craft and a tissue containing a medicament.

44. (New) Device according to claim 43 wherein the tissue or craft is of layered construction.

45. (New) Device according to claim 44 wherein one of the tissue and the craft comprises a first layer for drug delivery in one direction and a second layer to prevent drug delivery in an opposite direction.

46. (New) Device according to claim 43 wherein the device comprises a number of rings extending from a spine and one of the craft and the tissue extends between at least some of the adjacent rings.

47. (New) Method for internally supporting a vessel comprising the steps of:-

providing a device comprising:

an outer wall,

an inner wall in association with the outer wall,

both the inner and outer walls being movable from a delivery configuration, in which the device is displaceable to a pre-desired location in the vessel, to a deployment configuration, in which the outer wall contacts an internal surface of the vessel to be supported, and being movable from the deployment configuration to a retrieval configuration, in which the device is displaceable from the pre-desired location in the vessel,

the inner and outer walls comprising a first terminal part and a second terminal part, in the retrieval configuration the first terminal part overlapping the second terminal part, and in the delivery configuration the second terminal part overlapping at least part of the first terminal part,

the first terminal part comprising:-

a guiding opening at a first region of the first terminal part, through which the second terminal part is extendable to guide the terminal parts over one another during expansion of the device, and

a female receiver at a second region of the first terminal part spaced from the first region,

the second terminal part comprising a male projection for engagement with the female receiver to releasably lock the device in the deployment configuration,

delivering the device in the delivery configuration to a pre-desired location in the vessel;

moving the device from the delivery configuration to the deployment configuration; and

engaging the male projection in the female receiver to lock the device in the deployment configuration.

48. (New) Method according to claim 47 wherein the device is moved from the delivery configuration to the deployment configuration by expanding the device, and then contracting the device to engage the male projection with the female receiver.

49. (New) Method according to claim 47 wherein the method comprises the steps of:-

moving the device from the deployment configuration to the retrieval

configuration; and

retrieving the device from the pre-desired loaction in the vessel.

50. (New) Method according to claim 49 wherein device is moved from the deployment configuration to the retrieval configuration by expanding the device until the first terminal part overlaps the second terminal part, and then contracting the device.